



**MARK KRUZAN  
MAYOR**

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON

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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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September 29, 2014

Deborah Wezensky  
Communications Director  
2016 Indiana Bicentennial Commission  
140 N. Senate Avenue, Room 410  
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Dear Deborah,

In preparation for Monroe County's Bicentennial in 2018, the City of Bloomington is pleased to be a part of the *Monroe County Timeline*, an authoritative index of our city and county's interesting, popular, and historical events, created in partnership with the Monroe County Public Library and the Monroe County History Center.

The City is uniquely positioned to be a resource for indexers and to enter content about City departments. With the help of City officials and departments, the Timeline can provide references about when significant events occurred, e.g. utilities, infrastructure, and annexation; changes in legislation and leadership; and civic and economic developments.

Timeline partners, together with their supporters from Indiana University Libraries and local businesses and organizations, will be able to engage the community in multiple ways in order to benefit from the project. The project will also:

- serve as a rich resource for community leaders, researchers, educators and students;
- help community leaders identify and locate important historical documents and records;
- identify the most vulnerable or popular items, flagging them for digitization or preservation; and
- build community pride, generating excitement for other Bicentennial projects.


The City is able to support the project from 2015 to 2018. City departments will identify key events pertaining to their departmental history and enter this information into the project's online data form. When available, some digital images relevant to an event will be uploaded to enhance the user experience. Departmental support for this period is estimated at 200 hours between 2015 and 2017, or 5 hours a week. When departments cannot enter

their history directly, they will identify a liaison to collaborate with community volunteers in selecting and determining content appropriate for the *Timeline*.

The Office of the Mayor has established initiatives to make Bloomington a great place to live: community character, commerce, collaboration, and condition. While these efforts lead Bloomington into a bright future, the planning and implementation of these initiatives will not always be easy. When needed, a resource such as the *Monroe County Timeline* can serve as a reminder of the difficult problems and events the City has managed to overcome since 1818. Learning more from these past experiences will lead to better decision makers with thoughtful, progressive momentum and balanced sustainability for the future. Community leaders of all backgrounds will be empowered by this shared knowledge of both common and unique history, which makes this community so attractive. With the *Monroe County Timeline*, the City of Bloomington will be better prepared to continue to ensure all of its citizens an enhanced quality of life in our unique community.

If you have any questions, or need additional information, please feel free to call my office at 812.349.3406.

Thank you,

  
Mark Kruzan, Mayor  
City of Bloomington